(ii) The salt consumed in the old Trivandrum Division is estimated at 1,40,000 maunds per annum.

(iii) The depôt was re-opened in Vrischikam, 1097. Since that date, the needs of the Division have been fully served by it.

Certain particulars *re* local salt.

199. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:—

(*a*) What is the price per maund at which the Government acquire local salt from the licensees?

(*b*) What is the duty levied by the Government per maund of salt?

(*c*) What was the rate per maund at which the contract for the transport of home salt to the Trivandrum Port Salt Depôt was given during 1097?

(*d*) What was the price per maund at which home salt from the Trivandrum Port Salt Depôt was sold during 1097?

(*e*) What was the gain per maund which accrued to Government?

(*f*) What was the quantity of home salt transported to the Trivandrum Port Salt Depôt for sale in 1097?

(*g*) What was the estimated gain on the whole quantity of salt transported to the depôt for sale in 1097?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) In monopoly factories the *kudivila* is Chs. 5 per maund. In excise factories the rate varies from Chs. 4-cash 7 ¼ to Chs. 6-cash 3¾ per maund.

(*b*) Bh. Re. 1 As. 4 per maund.

(*c*) 4 annas and 2⅔ pies per maund.

(*d*) From the 5th Makaram, 1097, to the 28th Meenam, 1097, the rate was Bh. Rs. 2 As. 3 per maund. Since then the rate has been Bh. Rs. 2 per maund.

(*e*) Chs. 7 and 10 $\frac{11}{20}$ cash.

(*f*) 1,43,823 maunds and 26 seers.

(*g*) Rs. 39,342. Against this have to be set off loss on account of wastage, expenses in erecting and maintaining sheds and other works connected with the depôt, and also the cost of establishment.

In regard to the answer to part (*b*), the duty specified therein was the duty when the answer was prepared. Since then, the duty has been raised to Bh. Rs. 2-Annas 8 per maund.

Imports for Government Purposes.

200. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the value of the goods annually purchased from countries outside India for the use of the various departments of the State?

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[Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai.]

(*b*) What portion, if any, of these articles is directly delivered at the Travancore Ports?

(*c*) In case these articles are imported through British India, do the Government pay for their import duties there? What is the amount so paid annually?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The value of goods imported from outside India for the use of the several departments in 1097 was Rs. 2,68,531-12-0.

(*b*) All the goods imported from foreign countries are shipped to Alleppey, either direct or by transhipment at Colombo or Bombay, to coasting steamers for Alleppey.

(*c*) Till now no duty has been paid. For the future, intimation has been received that duty will be levied on goods imported through the British Indian Ports, and consequently arrangements are being made for the delivery of the articles at Alleppey itself.

Effect of Enhanced Anchal Rates.

201. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to give detailed information regarding the effect of the recently increased Anchal rates on the number of letters and Anchal cards posted?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: A statement* giving the information required by the member is laid on the table.

Women in Police Custody.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of cases of assaults on, or other improper behaviour to, women in police custody by Police officers, during the last ten years?

(*b*) How were these cases dealt with?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to make proper arrangements for the protection of women in custody?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) One.

(*b*) The offender who was a constable was dismissed the Force.

(*c*) Answers to (*a*) & (*b*) do not show that the existing arrangements are unsatisfactory.

Communications in the Karunagapalli Taluk.

202. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing:

(i) the annual revenue,

(ii) the annual expenditure on means of communication, and

(iii) the population,

of the Karunagapalli taluk?

Vide Appendix I—page 751.

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